

Message Text

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20

ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 IO-12 EA-11 COA-02 EB-11 OIC-04 ADP-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 ACDA-19 AEC-11 AGR-20 CG-00

COME-00 DOTE-00 FMC-04 INT-08 JUSE-00 NSF-04 OMB-01

RSR-01 /174 W

----- 090289

R 030657 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0672

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

CONFIDENTIAL CANBERRA 1922

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, UN

SUBJ: LOS/ PRC LOS TREATY ARTICLES

REF: USUN 936

1. AS PART OF CONTINUING CONTACT WITH DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, EMBOFF PROVIDED GILCHRIST, ACTING LEGAL ADVISOR, WITH COPY OF PRC LOS DRAFT TREATY ARTICLES CONTAINED REFTEL. GILCHRIST EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR DRAFT AND SAID THUS FAR DFA HAD RECEIVED ONLY SUMMARY OF THESE ARTICLES AND TEXT WOULD BE VERY USEFUL FOR THEM TO HAVE AT THIS TIME. GILCHRIST ALSO STATED THAT DECISION WOULD HAVE TO BE MADE IN GOA BY MORNING APRIL 4 WHETHER OR NOT TO PROCEED WITH PRESENTATION OF JOINT AUSTRALIAN/ ARGENTINIAN DRAFT ARTICLES.

2. GILCHRIST'S ONLY OBSERVATIONS ABOUT CHINESE DRAFT AFTER HURRIED PERUSAL WAS THAT THEY SEEMED TO EMPHASIZE SOVEREIGNTY AND THAT THEY APPEARED TO REPRESENT AN EXTREME VIEW OF LOS MATTERS DESIGNED TO ATTRACT SUPPORT

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OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

3. GILCHRIST THEN CALLED IN TWO MEMBERS OF HIS STAFF, MESSRS. COLE AND REECE. MR. COLE ASKED TWO QUESTIONS ABOUT USG POSITION. HE WONDERED A) IF THE CONCEPT OF AN INTERIM REGIME FOR EXPLOITATION OF THE SEA BED WHICH WAS PROPOSED BY USG COULD BE DESCRIBED TO LEGAL SECTION OF DFA IN CANBERRA AND B) WHAT THE USG POSITION WAS WITH REGARD TO ARCHIPELAGIC SEA CONCEPT. IN RESPONSE EMBOFF STATED HE WAS GLAD TO TAKE THE QUESTIONS BUT THAT EMBASSY UNDERSTANDING IS THAT USG HOLDS THAT OUR PROPOSALS ON LOS HAVE TO BE TAKEN AS A PACKAGE. WHILE SEPARATE DISCUSSION OF THE SUBJECTS RAISED WOULD NO DOUBT TAKE PLACE, IT MUST BE REMEMBERED THAT THE SITUATION IS ONE OF NEGOTIATION AND THAT NEITHER OF THE SUBJECTS COULD BE TAKEN IN ISOLATION FROM THE COMPLETE PACKAGE. EMBOFF CONCLUDED BY SAYING THAT ALTHOUGH EMBASSY WAS GLAD TO RAISE QUESTIONS WITH WASHINGTON, IT COULD BE THAT ANY ANSWERS SUPPLIED WOULD BE GIVEN TO AUSTRALIAN DELEGATION IN NEW YORK INSTEAD OF THROUGH EMBASSY IN CANBERRA. GILCHRIST THEN NOTED THAT CURRENT LOS MEETING WOULD BE CONCLUDED ON APRIL 6 AND THERE APPEARED LITTLE TIME FOR ANSWERS TO BE SENT BACK TO CANBERRA.

RICE

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 03 APR 1973
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: thigpegh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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30 JUN 2005

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